



Minutes Tempe Veterans Commission November 28, 2017

Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, November 28, 6:00 p.m., at the East Valley Veterans Education Center, 3320 South Price Road, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Keith Finkle, Chair
Scott Essex
Troy Friedman
Lauren Hyre
Patricia Little-Upah
David Lucier
Michelle Loposky (telephonically)

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Mario Aguirre
Michelle Bravo, Vice-Chair
Laura Skotnicki

City Staff Present:

Valerie Kime Trujillo, Human Services Deputy Director
Parrish Spisz, Council Aide II+

Guests Present:

Stephanie Michael, Arizona Department of Veterans Services

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Keith Finkle called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

Agenda Item 3 – Review and Approval of October 3, 2017 Minutes – (Motion Required)

MOTION: Commission Member David Lucier moved to APPROVE the minutes.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Lauren Hyre.

DECISION: Minutes unanimously APPROVED

Agenda Item 4 – 2017 Board and Commissions Annual Report – Final Review & Approval ([attachment](#))

The Commission discussed and added their recommended goals and accomplishments to the 2017 Tempe Veterans Commission Annual Report.

MOTION: Commission Member David Lucier moved to APPROVE the 2017 Veterans Commission Annual Report.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Patricia Little-Upah.

DECISION: Minutes unanimously APPROVED

Agenda Item 5 – East Valley Regional Veterans Court Support – Discussion and Approval

MOTION: Commission Member Patricia Little-Upah moved to APPROVE the Tempe Veterans Commissions' support of the East Valley Regional Veterans Court.

SECOND: Motion Seconded by Commission Member Lauren Hyre.

DECISION: Minutes unanimously APPROVED

Agenda Item 6 – Implementation Worksheet Submissions

No submissions

Agenda Item 7 – Calendar/Event Submissions

No submissions

Agenda Item 8 – Commission Member Announcements

Commission Member Scott Essex is not seeking reappointment. Chair Keith Finkle thanked Scott for his service and dedication to the Tempe Veterans Commission.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items – ~~December 5, 2017~~ December 12, 2017

- Commission Composition

Agenda Item 9 - Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Next meeting will be on December 12, 2017

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia

Reviewed by: Valerie Kime Trujillo

Keith Finkle, Chair
Tempe Veterans Commission

TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Description as Defined in Ordinance:

(1) To advise the mayor and city council and assist city departments on veteran programs, policies, and practices designed to improve the quality of life for veterans in Tempe; (2) To educate the community on the status of veterans' rights, needs, and contributions to our community; (3) To recommend ways to strengthen existing services for veterans while pursuing the creation of new program and service opportunities; (4) To develop and promote benchmarks as outlined by the Arizona Coalition for Military Families for assisting the City of Tempe and its business community earn recognition as "Arizona Veteran Supportive Employers"; (5) To assist in creating and supporting a community connection point to inform, guide, and direct military veterans seeking personal and professional enhancement services that may include education, mentoring, workforce support, and health and wellness; and, (6) To advise on supportive affordable housing projects for veteran families.

TCC § {Ord. No. O2014.52, 10-2-14}

List of Board and Commission Members, Including Attendance and Service Dates:

<u>Board/Commission Members:</u>	<u>Service Dates:</u>	<u>Attendance Record:</u>
Mario Aguirre	December 17, 2015 – Present	Absent: January 26, September
Michelle Bravo	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: January 10, March, June
Bryan Durham	February 24, 2015 – August 28, 2017	Absent: January 10, March, May, June, August
Scott Essex	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: January 10, June
Keith Finkle	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: September
Troy Friedman	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: September
Lauren Hyre	March 23, 2017 - Present	100% attendance
Patricia Little-Upah	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: March
Michelle Loposky	December 17, 2015 – Present	Absent: January 26
David Lucier	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: May
Laura Skotnicki	February 24, 2015 – Present	Absent: June

Name of Chair and Vice Chair:

- Chair – Keith Finkle
- Vice Chair – Michelle Bravo

Staff Liaison and Contact Information:

<u>Staff Liaison:</u>	<u>Department:</u>	<u>Phone:</u>	<u>Email:</u>
Valerie Kime Trujillo	Human Services	480-858-2310	valerie_trujillo@tempe.gov

Meeting Frequency and Location:

The Veterans Commission typically meets on the first Tuesday each month at 6:00 p.m., in the Second Floor Library Board Room, Tempe Public Library, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe.

Number of Meetings Cancelled and Reason for Cancellation:

The April 4, 2017 meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum and the July 4, 2017 meeting was cancelled in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

Vacancies and Duration of Vacancies:

1. Supportive Services Agency Representative, January 2017 – March 2017
2. Arizona Department of Veterans Services, August 28, 2017 - Present

Subcommittee and Subcommittee Activity:

Did the Board/Commission have any subcommittees active during the reporting period? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Tempe Veterans Commission is To Support Local Veterans through Collaboration with Strategic Partners across Sectors Utilizing a Synergistic Approach Connecting Veterans to Necessary Resources

Accomplishments (Past 12 Months):

- Executed the Stand for Veterans event
- Executed Community Salutes
- Encourage City to maintain status as Veteran supportive
- Maintained a partnership with CARE7
- Valor on Eighth broke ground
- Valor on Eighth is accepting applications.
- Championed East Valley Veterans Education Center
- Continued support to the Fire Department's medical program
- Recognize youth entering the military
- Completed third Strategic Planning session

Goals Related to City Council Strategic Priorities, if Applicable (Next 12 Months):

1. Safe & Secure Communities
 - Continued support and partnership with Care7 and Tempe Fire Medical Rescue's VA Telemedicine Program
2. Strong Community Connections
 - Recommend to City Council two signature events – One for those entering service and one for those returning
 - Promote efforts of the Tempe Veterans Commission and its work in the Tempe community
3. Quality of Life
 - Participate in Grand Opening of the Valor on Eighth Housing Project, and collaborate with Save the Family to support veteran residents
 - Recommend Regional approach to the Veteran's Success Events.
 - Sustain support for the Regional Veteran's Court
4. Sustainable Growth & Development
 - Continued partnership with East Valley Veterans Education Center as the official One Stop Shop for the City of Tempe
5. Financial Stability & Vitality
 - Double the number of local businesses to participate and certify in ACMF's Veteran Supportive Employer program